Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1 (currently amended). A method of processing a client request for a file, comprising:

> retrieving ~~transmitting~~ a first fragment of the file ~~that is stored in a first tier~~ from volatile storage of a server ~~storage to the client~~ and transmitting the first fragment to the client;

> retrieving a subsequent fragment of the file from ~~a lower tier of~~ disk storage of the server while the first fragment is transmitting; and

> after transmission of the first fragment completes, transmitting the subsequent fragment to the client.

2-5 (canceled.)

6 (currently amended). The method of claim 1, further comprising, responsive to determining that ~~a~~ the first fragment of the requested file is not valid in the ~~first tier of~~ volatile storage, retrieving the first fragment from ~~a lower tier of~~ the disk storage and storing the first fragment in the ~~first tier~~ volatile storage.

7 (currently amended). The method of claim 6, further comprising ~~determining~~ limiting a size for the first fragment based upon ~~the transmission window of~~ a size and number of active packets permitted by a TCP/IP connection between the server and client.

8 (currently amended). The method of claim 7, wherein the first fragment size is less than or equal to ~~the~~ a maximum number of active packets permitted by the connection multiplied by a maximum packet size permitted by the ~~transmission window of the server~~ connection.

9. (canceled.)

10 (currently amended). A server device for processing a client request for a file, comprising:

> a processor;

> a system memory accessible to the processor and configured with instructions suitable for execution by the processor;

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server code means for transmitting a first fragment of the file that is stored in ~~a first tier of server~~ volatile storage <u>of the server device</u> to the client;

server code means for retrieving a subsequent fragment of the file from ~~a lower tier~~ <u>disk storage</u> of ~~storage~~ <u>the server device</u> while the first fragment is transmitting; and

server code means for transmitting the subsequent fragment to the client after transmission of the first fragment completes.

11-14 (canceled).

15 (currently amended). The server device of claim 10, further comprising, code means for retrieving the first fragment from ~~a lower tier of storage~~ <u>the disk storage</u> and storing the first fragment in the ~~first tier~~ <u>the volatile storage</u> responsive to determining that a <u>valid copy of the</u> first fragment ~~of the requested file~~ is not ~~valid~~ <u>stored</u> in the ~~first tier of~~ <u>volatile</u> storage.

16 (currently amended). The server device of claim 15, further comprising code means for ~~determining~~ <u>limiting</u> a size for the first fragment based upon ~~the transmission window of~~ <u>a size and number of active packets permitted by</u> a <u>TCP/IP</u> connection between the server and client.

17 (currently amended). The server device of claim 16, wherein the first fragment size is less than or equal to ~~the~~ <u>a</u> maximum <u>number of</u> active <u>packets permitted by the connection multiplied by a maximum packet size permitted by the</u> ~~transmission window of the server~~ connection.

18 (canceled).

19 (currently amended). A computer program product residing on a computer readable medium for enabling a server device to process <u>a</u> client ~~requests~~ <u>request for a file</u>, comprising:

server code means for <u>retrieving</u> ~~transmitting~~ a first fragment of the file ~~that is stored in a first tier~~ <u>from volatile storage</u> of <u>a</u> server ~~storage to the client~~ <u>and transmitting the first fragment to the client</u>;

server code means for retrieving a subsequent fragment of the file from ~~a lower tier of~~ <u>disk</u> storage <u>of the server</u> while the first fragment is transmitting; and

server code means for transmitting the subsequent fragment to the client after transmission of the first fragment completes.

20-23 (canceled).

24 (currently amended). The computer program product of claim 19, further comprising, code means for retrieving the first fragment from ~~a lower tier of~~ <u>the disk</u> storage and storing the first

fragment in the ~~first tier~~ the volatile storage responsive to determining that a valid copy of the first fragment of the requested file is not ~~valid~~ stored in the ~~first tier of~~ storage.

25 (currently amended). The computer program product of claim 24, further comprising code means for ~~determining~~ limiting a size for the first fragment based upon ~~the transmission window of~~ a size and number of active packets permitted by a TCP/IP connection between the server and client.

26 (currently amended). The computer program product of claim 25, wherein the first fragment size is less than or equal to ~~the~~ a maximum number of active packets permitted by the connection multiplied by a maximum packet size permitted by the ~~transmission window of the server~~ connection.